

SENATE WATCH

A summary of today's Senate actions; published daily when the Senate is in session.

5/29/03

FINAL PASSAGE

HB 4257 (Palmer)

The bill would allow a person to perform beach maintenance activities on Great Lakes lands without a permit from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Support: Save our Shoreline, Individual Shoreline Property and Business Owners, Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, West Michigan Tourist Association, Michigan Boating Industries Association, Michigan Association of Realtors, National Federation of Independent Businesses, Michigan Hotel, Motel, and Resort Association.

Oppose: DEQ, MI United Conservation Clubs, MEC, League of Conservation Voters, Clean Water Action, USEPA, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Lone Tree Council, Sierra Club, Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council.

- BRATER 1 (S-8) was defeated [RC 143: 13 yes, 24 no].
- BRATER 1A was withdrawn [RC].
- BRATER 2 was adopted[RC]. Technical change requested by DEQ.
- BARCIA 3 was withdrawn.
- BARCIA 4 was adopted [no RC]. This defines "beach,"
- BARCIA/Birkholz 5 was adopted [no RC]. Bipartisan agreement: Balance landowners rights to groom a "historical" beach, while maintaining DEQ's concern to protect the environment.
- HB 4257 passed with IE [RC 144: 37 yes, 1 no].

THIRD READING

SB 206 (Johnson)

The bill would provide for the licensure of audiologists. It is estimated that 400 to 500 audiologists currently practice in Michigan. While many of them evidently hold a license as a hearing aid dealer, audiologists are not otherwise subject to State regulation.

The bill would establish an application processing fee of \$120 and an annual license fee of \$150 for a person licensed or seeking licensure as an audiologist.

Support: Michigan Academy of Audiology, Michigan Speech Language and Hearing Association, Hearing and Speech Services; Michigan Oto-Laryngological Society, Michigan Association for Deaf, Alexander Graham Bell Association, Crittenton Hospital.

- Committee 1 (S-2) was adopted [no RC].
- Johnson 1A was adopted [no RC]. Technical change.
- George 1B was adopted [no RC]. Technical change.
- George 1C was withdrawn.
- SB 206 was moved to 3rd Reading.

SBs 433-51 (Bipartisan)

JUDICIARY FEE PACKAGE

This package of bills increases fees related to court filing and use fess, etc. Filing fee increases are expected to increase revenue by \$13 million and the Justice System Assessment (court costs) is expected to generate \$14.4 million in the first year of implementation and \$24.3 million by the third year. Total revenue generated is estimated to be \$27.7 million in the first year and \$37.3 million by the third year.

• SBs 433-51 were (variously) amended and moved to 3rd Reading.